

REPORT  
OF  
THE COMMITTEE,  
APPOINTED  
TO INQUIRE WHETHER ANY, AND IF ANY,  
WHAT  
ALTERATIONS ARE NECESSARY TO BE MADE  
IN THE  
ACT FOR ESTABLISHING TRADING HOUSES WITH THE INDIANS,  
AND  
THE SEVERAL ACTS SUPPLEMENTARY THERETO.

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APRIL 14th, 1810.

*PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE SENATE UNITED STATES.*

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1810.

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REPORT

THE COMMITTEE

ON THE PROGRESS OF THE

INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

IN THE UNITED STATES

FOR THE YEAR 1880

PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AT THE SECOND SESSION, 1881

IN SENATE

BY JAMES H. HARRIS

CHIEF OF BUREAU

OF THE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

WASHINGTON

1881

PRINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

PRINTING OFFICE

OF THE SENATE

WASHINGTON

IN SENATE  
OF  
THE UNITED STATES.

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APRIL 14th, 1810.

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Mr. Anderson, from the committee appointed to inquire whether any, and if any, what alterations are necessary to be made in the act for establishing trading houses with the Indian tribes, and the several acts supplementary thereto,

REPORTED

The following letters for publication :

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COMMITTEE CHAMBER,

APRIL 3d, 1810.

SIR,

I AM directed by the committee to whom has been referred, a resolution of Senate, to inquire whether any, and if any, what alterations are necessary to be made, in the act establishing trading houses with the Indian tribes, and the several acts supplementary thereto, to ask information of you upon the following points :

What number of trading houses have been established, under the act for establishing trading houses with the Indian tribes?

At what places have the trading houses been established?

What number of *agents* have been employed, and what compensation has been annually allowed them respectively?

If the annual compensation allowed them exceeds ten thousand dollars, at what time did that excess commence, and by what authority was that excess directed to be expended?

What was the state of the trading fund, at the latest date that accounts have been rendered?

Has the capital stock been diminished, and if it has, what is the amount of the diminution.

Accept assurance of my high respect.

JOS. ANDERSON,

*Chairman of the Committee.*

*General Mason,*

*Superintendent of Indian Trade.*

SIR,

At Colerain, on the river St. Mary's, in the state of Georgia, in the year 1795.

At Tellico Block House, in the South Western territory, in the year 1795.

At Fort St. Stephens, on the Mobile, in the Mississippi territory, in the year 1802.

At Chickasaw Bluffs, on the Mississippi, in the Mississippi territory, in the year 1802.

At Fort Wayne, on the Miami of the Lakes, in the Indiana territory, in the year 1802.

At Detroit, in the Michigan territory, in the year 1802.

At Arkensa, on the river Arkensa, in the territory of Louisiana, in the year 1803.

At Natchitoches, on the Red river, in the territory of Orleans, in the year 1805.

At Belle Fontaine, mouth of the Missouri, in the territory of Louisiana, in the year 1805.

At Chicago, on Lake Michigan, in the Indiana territory, in the year 1805.

At Sandusky, lake Erie, in the state of Ohio, in the year 1806.

At the island of Michilimackinac, lake Huron, in the Michigan territory, in the year 1808.

At Fort Osage, on the Missouri, territory of Louisiana, in the year 1808.

At Fort Madison, on the Upper Mississippi, territory of Louisiana, in 1808.

Of these, two have been discontinued; that at Detroit in 1803, and that at Belle Fontaine in 1808—and two have been removed; that established originally at Colerain, on the St. Mary's, to Fort Wilkinson, on the Oconee, in 1797; and again from that place to Fort Hawkins, on the Oakmulgee, in 1806; and that originally established at Tellico, to the Hiwassee, of the Tennessee, in 1807.

There are now in operation twelve trading houses, viz: at Fort Hawkins, at Hiwassee, at Fort St. Stephens, at Chickasaw Bluffs, at Fort Wayne, at Arkansas, at Natchitoches, at Chicago, at Sandusky, at Michilimackinac, at Fort Osage, and at Fort Madison.

There have been employed, in all cases, a principal agent at each house, and in most cases an assistant agent or clerk at each—the compensation allowed, has been from \$ 750 to \$ 1250 per annum, to the principal agents, and from \$ 250 to \$ 600 per annum, to the assistant agents or clerks; exclusive of rations, or allowance for rations, paid out of the funds of this establishment.

It does not appear that the annual compensation allowed to agents and assistant agents or clerks, exceeded the sum of ten thousand dollars, until the year 1805; previous to which time, as has been said, six trading houses had been established; during that year, four additional houses were set up, and one discontinued, leaving then in operation nine houses; at this time, the allowance of rations was commuted to money, at fixed rates per annum; and the compensations paid during the latter part of this year (1805), stood thus:—

8 agents, at \$ 1,000 per annum,	8,000
1 agent, at " " " " " "	1,250
7 assistants, at \$ 500,	3,500
1 " " " " " "	400

1990-1991

\$ 13,150

*Allowance for subsistence, in lieu of rations.*

9 agents, at \$ 365 per annum,	\$ 3,285
6 assistants, at 150,	900
1 assistant, at	180

---

\$ 4,365

This commutation for rations, and these rates and amounts of compensation were directed to be paid by order of the secretary of war. The allowance to agents and their assistants or clerks, has been increased from that time, as additional trading houses have been set up; and there are payable for the current year, to the persons and at the posts named in the paper marked A, sent herewith, and as there shewn in detail:—

For salaries,	\$ 14,750
For subsistence,	5,475

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Together, \$ 20,225

For the further information of the honorable committee, I beg leave to annex copies of three communications, made by me as to these salaries and other subjects relating to the business of this office; the one dated 18th January and 1st February, 1808, addressed to the secretary of war, and by him submitted to the committee of the House of Representatives on Indian affairs; one other dated 16th January, 1809, and addressed to the honorable Mr. Newton, chairman of the committee of commerce and manufactures, of the same body, at their next session; and one other dated 29th January, 1810, to the secretary of the treasury.

As to the state of the trading fund, it is not practicable, while the business is actually going on at so many different and distant points, to make up, at any given period, an accurate account—all that can be done on this subject, has been now attempted; to shew by the last accounts received, and by estimate of property on hand of uncertain value, of the debts due, and of the unsettled accounts, the probable state of this fund.

The general statement, sent herewith, having reference to various abstracts annexed for particulars, comprehends all the property and cash on hand, as well as at the factories and in the hands of agents at other places, as at this office, deductions by estimate for losses being first made, leave for the probable amount of the fund, as existing on the 31st December last, 235,461 dollars 64 cents.

The amount of the capital stock employed is not shewn by any books or documents in this office; the business of the trading houses having been previous to the year 1806, conducted by the purveyor of the public supplies, and others under the direction of the secretary of war, the books and documents relating to them, have been but partially deposited with the superintendent of Indian trade.

But considering the amount of the different appropriations to the trading fund to be 300,000 dollars, and that the whole of this has been drawn from the treasury, and placed from time to time in the hands of the public agents for the purpose of Indian trade, except 20,000 dollars of the appropriations of the last year, as is believed to be the fact; the capital stock, wherewith is to be compared the estimate of the present state of the fund now submitted, will be 280,000 dollars; and that estimate amounting to 235,461 dollars 64 cents, the probable diminution will appear to have been 44,538 dollars 36 cents, since the commencement of the establishment.

With very great respect,  
I have the honor to be,  
Sir,

Your obedient servant.

J. MASON.

*The honorable Joseph Anderson,  
Chairman of the committee of the Senate on Indian affairs.*

## GENERAL STATEMENT.

The following Statement exhibits the amount of property on hand, belonging to the United States' Indian Trading House Establishment, (as more particularly shewn by the abstracts referred to) on the 31st December, 1809.

	<i>Dolls. Cts.</i>
Amount property of various kinds on hand at the trading houses, per abstract B,	124,041 10
Amount peltries in the hands of Thomas Bourke, agent, Savannah, per ditto C,	85
Amount peltries &c. in the hands of Joseph Saul, agent, New-Orleans, per ditto D,	39,010 62
Amount of goods on the way to the factories, per ditto E,	23,519 16
Amount merchandise, cash and other balances on the books of the superintendent, per ditto F,	57,084 45
Amount furs and peltries in the hands of ditto, per ditto G,	8,150
	253,890 33
Less amount balances on the books of the superintendent, due to sundry persons, per abstract H,	8,428 69
	245,461 64
Deduct amount of salary and subsistence money due to agents and assistants at the trading houses, and other balances, amounts unascertained, unpaid at the end of the year, estimated at	10,000
<i>Dollars,</i>	235,461 64

NOTE—No returns from three of the trading houses, viz. at Fort Wayne, Fort Osage and Fort Hawkins, later than the 30th September, have been received; but as it is believed the result will not be materially affected, they have been considered with the others, as of the 31st December.

There is an unsettled account with the war department for articles occasionally furnished to this establishment on one side, and on the other, for goods furnished and debts given in at Indian treaties; the balance is not believed to be against this office.

## (A.)

The following Statement shews the sum payable for the salary and subsistence of the United States' Indian factors and their assistants, for the year 1810.

Oakmulge factory,	Jonathan Halstead, factor, salary	1,000	
	subistence	365	
	Charles Magnan, assistant, salary	500	
	subistence	150	
			2,015
Highwassee factory,	Nicholas Byers, factor, salary	1,000	
	subistence	365	
	Arthur H. Henley, assistant, salary	500	
	subistence	150	
			2,015
Chickasaw factory,	David Hogg, factor, salary	1,000	
	subistence	365	
	Robert P. Bayly, assistant, salary	500	
	subistence	150	
			2,015
Chaktaw factory,	Geo : S. Gaines, factor, salary	1,000	
	subistence	365	
	Thomas Malone, assistant, salary,	500	
	subistence	150	
			2,015
Arkensas factory,	John B. Treat, factor, salary	1,000	
	subistence	365	
	James B. Waterman, assistant, salary	600	
	subistence	180	
			2,145
Osage factory,	Geo : C. Sibley, factor, salary	800	
	subistence	365	
	Isaac Rawlings, assistant, salary	500	
	subistence	150	
			1,815
Le Moin factory,	John Johnson, factor, salary	800	
	subistence	365	
			1,165
Natchitoches factory,	Thomas M. Linnard, factor, salary	1,000	
	subistence	365	
			1,365
Fort Wayne factory,	John Johnston, factor, salary	1,000	
	subistence	365	
	William Oliver, clerk, salary	250	
	subistence	150	
			1,765
Chicago factory,	Mathew Irwin, factor, salary	800	
	subistence	365	
			1,165
Sanduskey factory,	Samuel Tupper, factor, salary	750	
	subistence	250	
	Clerk salary	250	
	subistence	130	
			1,380
Michilimackinac factory,	Joseph B. Varnum, jr. factor, salary	1,000	
	subistence	365	
			1,365
	Dollars,		20,225

## (B.)

ABSTRACT of property on hand and debts due at the different trading houses, at the dates against each, per the inventories and accounts rendered the superintendent of Indian Trade, by the factors.

1809.		<i>Higwasee Factory.</i>	Dolls. Cts.
December 31st,	Amount of merchandise on hand this day, per inventory,	1,134 59½	
	Furs, peltries and bees-wax,	2,277 42	
	Cash,	142 74½	
	Debts due the factory, exclusive of an unsettled account with the military, Indian and war de- partments,	423 02	
	Furniture,	169	
	Factory buildings,	1,289 55	
			5,436 33
		<i>Factory at Fort Hawkins, on the Ocmulgee.</i>	
September 30th,	Merchandise on hand, per inven- tory of this date,	2,375 99½	
	Furs and peltries,	5,397	
	Cash,	199 29½	
	Debts,	206 48½	
	Factory buildings,	463 03½	
			8,641 81
		<i>Chaktaw Factory.</i>	
	Amount of merchandise on hand, per inventory of this date,	2,936 60	
	Furs, peltries and other produce,	7,665 07	
	Debts due the factory,	3,227 85	
	Cash on hand,	696 46	
			14,525 48
		<i>Natchitoches Factory.</i>	
	Merchandise on hand this day, per inventory,	2,638 99	
	Furs, peltries, &c.	10,797 38	
	Cash,	200 61½	
	Debts,	1,046 67½	
	Furniture,	200	
	Factory buildings,	2,012 55	
			16,896 20
		<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	



## Abstract (B) continued.

1809.		<i>Amount brought forward.</i>		
		<i>Arkansas Factory.</i>		
December	31st,	Merchandise on hand, per inventory of this date,	3,561 63	
		Debts,	2,860 31	
		Furniture,	194 94½	
		Factory buildings, estimated at	800	7,416 88
		<i>Factory at Chickasaw Bluffs.</i>		
		Merchandise on hand, per inventory of this date,	6,030 79	
		Furs, peltries and other produce,	5,779 79	
		Cash,	568 84	
		Debts,	4,768 84	
		Factory buildings, estimated at	500	17,648 26
		<i>Osage Factory.</i>		
September	30th,	Merchandise on hand this day, per inventory,	17,982 81	
		Furs and peltries, &c. on hand	2,691 50	
		Debts due the factory,	473 25	
		Factory buildings, estimated at	1,000	22,147 56
		<i>Le Moin Factory.</i>		
December	31st,	Merchandise on hand, per inventory of this date,	10,276 41	
		Furs, peltries, &c. on hand,	5,116 96	
		Debts due the factory,	759 51	
		Cash on hand,	333 50	
		Factory buildings,	500	16,986 38
		<i>Fort Wayne Factory.</i>		
October	5th,	Merchandise, peltries, &c. on hand, per inventory,	5,020 75	
		Debts, as per returns of March last, (1809.)	2,112 72	
		Factory buildings, estimated at	500	7,633 47
		<i>Michilimakinak Factory.</i>		
December	31st,	Merchandise on hand, per inventory of this date,	15,577 44	
		Furs and peltries, &c.	60 50	
		Cash on hand,	156 52	
		Debts due the factory,	584 99	16,379 45
		<i>Amount carried forward,</i>		

## Abstract (B) continued.

1809.		<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	
		<i>Chicago Factory.</i>	
December	31st,	Merchandise on hand, per inventory of this date,	4,378 34
		Furs and peltries,	877 62½
		Cash,	401 66½
		Debts,	1,185 39
		Furniture,	134 31
		Factory buildings, estimated at	500
			7,477 33
		<i>Sandusky Factory.</i>	
		Merchandise on hand, per inventory of this date,	3,120 03¼
		Furs and peltries, &c.	768 47½
		Debts,	1,029 48½
		Furniture, &c.	148 38½
		Factory buildings,	814 65
			5,881 03
		<i>Late Factory at Belle Fontanne.</i>	
July	1st,	Factory buildings and land attached thereto, as per inventory of this date,	1,200
1809.			
December	31st,	Bonds in the hands of Gen. Clark, agent at St. Louis, received for goods put into his hands by Rodolph Tellier, late factor at Belle Fontanne and remaining of the funds of that factory,	876 86
			2,076 86
			149,147 04
		RECAPITULATION.	
		Merchandise as shewn in this abstract,	74,311 67
		Furs and peltries, &c.	42,154 42
		Cash,	2,699 64
		Debts,	19,554 89
		Furniture,	846 64
		Factory buildings, &c.	9,579 78
			149,147 04
		<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	149,147 04

## Abstract (B) continued.

1809.	<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	149,147 04
	Deduct, loss on Indian debts, many of which old and unsettled from the commencement of the business, amount as shewn above \$ 19,554 89, estimated at 50 per cent. - 9,777 44½	
	Deduct, loss on furs and peltries in the hands of the factors run out in money at the prices taken in at by them, (see note on abstract D) amount as shewn above, dollars 42,154 42, estimated at 25 per cent - 10,538 60½	
	Deduct, loss on the buildings erected at the factories, most of which being remote from settlements will be of no value, when the trading houses may be moved or discontinued, amount as shewn above, \$ 9,579 78, estimated at 50 per cent. - 4,789 89	25,105 94
	<i>Dollars,</i>	<u>124,041 10</u>

## (C.)

ABSTRACT of Peltries in the hands of Thomas Bourke,  
Agent for the United States' Indian Factories, Savannah, on the 31st December, 1809.

FROM HIGHWASSEE FACTORY		<i>Dolls.</i>	<i>Cts.</i>
6 bundles deer skins, weighing at the factory, per Mr. Bourke's inventory of 31st December, 1809, 680 lb. at 12½ cents,		85	00

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been admitted to the office of the Secretary of the Board of Education, since the last meeting of the Board, on the 1st of January, 1880.

Name	Rank	Grade
John A. Smith	First	First
James B. Jones	Second	Second
William C. Brown	Third	Third
Charles D. White	Fourth	Fourth
Edward E. Black	Fifth	Fifth
George F. Green	Sixth	Sixth
Henry G. Hall	Seventh	Seventh
Isaac H. King	Eighth	Eighth
Joseph I. Lee	Ninth	Ninth
Samuel J. Miller	Tenth	Tenth
David K. Moore	Eleventh	Eleventh
Abraham L. Taylor	Twelfth	Twelfth
Benjamin M. Wilson	Thirteenth	Thirteenth
Simon N. Young	Fourteenth	Fourteenth
John O. Adams	Fifteenth	Fifteenth
James P. Baker	Sixteenth	Sixteenth
William Q. Carter	Seventeenth	Seventeenth
Charles R. Davis	Eighteenth	Eighteenth
Edward S. Evans	Nineteenth	Nineteenth
George T. Fisher	Twentieth	Twentieth
Henry U. Gibson	Twenty-first	Twenty-first
Isaac V. Hall	Twenty-second	Twenty-second
Joseph W. Hill	Twenty-third	Twenty-third
Samuel X. Jones	Twenty-fourth	Twenty-fourth
David Y. King	Twenty-fifth	Twenty-fifth
Abraham Z. Lee	Twenty-sixth	Twenty-sixth
Benjamin A. Miller	Twenty-seventh	Twenty-seventh
Simon B. Moore	Twenty-eighth	Twenty-eighth
John C. Taylor	Twenty-ninth	Twenty-ninth
James D. Wilson	Thirtieth	Thirtieth

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been admitted to the office of the Secretary of the Board of Education, since the last meeting of the Board, on the 1st of January, 1880.

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been admitted to the office of the Secretary of the Board of Education, since the last meeting of the Board, on the 1st of January, 1880.

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## (D.)

ABSTRACT of Peltries, Furs, &c. forwarded at various times, from sundry Trading Houses, to Joseph Saul, Agent for United States' Factories at New Orleans, not included in any of the returns now made, of property on hand at the factories, put at the prices at which they were taken from the Indians by the factors, and remaining at Orleans unsold, on the 31st December, 1809.

DATE.	FROM WHAT FACTORY.	DESCRIPTION OF SKINS.	WEIGHT.	PRICE.	
1808, January 5,	Chaktaw factory,	Red deer skins,	lbs. 4178	20	835 60
ditto,	ditto,	grey do.	16799	20	3359 80
March 29,	ditto,	red do.	9378	20	1875 60
1809, January 24,	ditto,	grey do.	10836	20	2167 20
ditto,	ditto,	red do.	3392	20	678 40
December 10,	ditto,	grey do.	14463	20	2992 60
ditto,	ditto,	shaved do.	197	36	70 92
ditto,	ditto,	bear skins,	30 skins,	100	30
1808, March 13,	Chickasaw factory,	red deer skins,	lbs. 345	25	86 25
ditto,	ditto,	grey do.	6007	25	1501 75
19,	ditto,	shaved do.	410	37½	153 75
ditto,	ditto,	red do.	2785	25	696 25
1809, April 29,	ditto,	grey do.	55	25	13 75
ditto,	ditto,	in hair do.	21619	25	5404 75
May 3,	ditto,	shaved do.	3500	37½	1237 50
ditto,	ditto,	in hair do.	11275	25	2818 75
ditto,	ditto,	bear skins,	131 skins	100	131
ditto,	ditto,	wolf and panther,	108 skins	25	27
1807, December 23,	Arkansas factory,	shaved deer skins,	lbs. 3848	36	1385 28
1808, December 12,	ditto,	do. do.	3422	36	1231 92
1809, May 29,	ditto,	do. do.	846	36	304 56
1808, March 29,	ditto,	do. do.	236	25	59
December 12,	ditto,	in hair do.	277	25	69 25
1808, February 11,	Natchitoches factory,	shaved deer skins,	4467	33	1489
ditto,	ditto,	in the hair do.	9475	22	1864 50
1809, February 9,	ditto,	shaved do.	12735	33½	4185
ditto,	ditto,	in the hair do.	19513	22	4292 86
ditto,	ditto,	bear skins, (supposed.)	80 skins,	100	80
1809, December,	Osage factory,	shaved deer skins,	lbs. 20568	25	7392
ditto,	ditto,	other skins,	256 skins,	250	640
ditto,	ditto,	bear skins, 1st quality,	1055 skins,	150	1582 50
ditto,	ditto,	do. do. 2d do.	100	100	100
1809, December,	Le Moine factory,	shaved deer skins,	lbs. 25021	25	6255 25
ditto,	ditto,	in the hair do.	3006	20	601 20
ditto,	ditto,	bear skins, 1st quality,	20 skins	150	30
ditto,	ditto,	do. 2d do.	44	100	44
ditto,	ditto,	other skins,	176	200	352
ditto,	ditto,	bees wax,	100	20	20
ditto,	ditto,	tallow,	lbs. 968	12½	121
1809, December 26,	Arkansas factory,	shaved deer skins,	13436	36	4836 96
ditto,	ditto,	in the hair,	1273	25	318 25
ditto,	ditto,	other skins,	78 skins	205	160 29
ditto,	ditto,	bear skins,	100	100	100
ditto,	ditto,	common do.	60	50	30
ditto,	ditto,	bear skins,	100	100	100
Purchased by Mr. Saul,		pipes to pack in,	424 pipes	\$ 8	5545 50
				Dollars,	3392
					65,017 69
					26,007 07
				Dollars,	39,010 62

NOTE. The furs and peltries forwarded from Arkansas, to Mr. Saul, on the 26th December, had not reached him on the 31st of that month, but as they have been received by him since, and are not included in the account of property on hand at the factory, at that date, it was thought proper to add them to this estimate.

NOTE. It is to be remarked that all the above peltries are carried out in money, at the prices at which they were taken in at the different factories, and that the practice in traffic with Indians, is to allow good prices for skins, and to obtain the rate of barter, intended, by putting on the adequate advance on the goods furnished them. This circumstance, and because great part of them have been on hand, for want of a market, from one to two years, much damage may be expected. A reduction of at least 40 per cent. may be estimated on the amount,

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## (E.)

**Abstract** Merchandise forwarded to sundry Factories from the Office of Superintendent of Indian Trade, which had not reached said Factories at the date of their last inventories rendered, and which is not included in the amount of property on hand at the Factories, per abstract (B.)

<b>CHAKTAW FACTORY.</b>	
Amount of merchandise forwarded, on 29th October, 1808, and on 8th June, 1809, - - - - -	8,158 29
<b>NATCHITOCHES FACTORY.</b>	
Amount of merchandise forwarded on 28th November, 1809, - - - - -	2,134 81
<b>FORT WAYNE FACTORY.</b>	
Amount of merchandise forwarded on 9th June, and on 28th July, 1809, - - - - -	4,686 87
<b>LE MOIN FACTORY.</b>	
Amount of merchandise forwarded on 9th May, 5th June, and 16th June, 1809, - - - - -	5,130 07
<b>OAKMULGE FACTORY.</b>	
Amount of merchandise forwarded on 28th November, 1809, - - - - -	4,081 43
<b>FORT OSAGE.</b>	
Amount of merchandise forwarded on 5th June, 1809, - - - - -	1,327 69
<i>Dollars,</i>	25,519 16



(F.)

**LIST of Balances due the Superintendent of Indian Trade,**  
**31st December, 1809.**

<i>Bills receivable \$ 8,600 <sup>100</sup>/<sub>100</sub>, viz:</i>		
Four drafts, drawn by William H. Harrison, governor of the Indiana territory, on the secretary of war, favor of John Johnston, factor at Fort Wayne, all dated in October, 1809, and accepted, but not then paid, amounting to	7,570	95
One draft, John Sibley, on the secretary of war, favor Thomas M. Linnard, factor at Natchitoches, dated 14th September, 1809, not yet paid,	1,029	13
Thomas Crab, gun smith, advanced him on account of work to be done,	8,600	08
Baylis and Purkins, same,	28	70
Thomas Colclazer, same,	300	
Cash account—balance of cash on hand,	100	
Merchandise account—balance of goods on hand,	17,283	03
James Maury, United States' consul, Liverpool—balance remaining in his hands, of goods ordered,	23,811	92
Joseph Lopes Dias, agent N. York—for sale of skins—Notes not yet due,	88	85
Thomas Bourke, agent Savannah—remaining in his hands,	4,622	83
Thomas Waterman, agent Philadelphia—amount of sales of skins—Notes not yet due,	238	75
	2,010	29
	<i>Dollars,</i>	57,084 45

(G.)

Abstract of furs and peltries in the possession of John Mason, Superintendent of Indian trade, received from the factories on Osage and Le Moin rivers.

## OSAGE FACTORY.

*Invoice of 1st June, 1809.*

4 tierces, containing 655 Indian dressed deer skins, received from New-Orleans, through the agency of Joseph Saul, a 1 50,	982 50
4 tierces, a 2 00	8

*Invoice of 15th May, 1809.*

1100 lbs. beaver, a 2 00,	2,200
115 lbs. 2nd quality ditto, a 1 00	115
1420 muskrat, raccoon, wild cat and fox skins, a 25 cts.	355
6 wolf skins, a 1 00,	6

*Invoice 1st June, 1809.*

600 lbs. beaver, a 2 00	1,200
328 raccoon, wild cat and fox skins, a 25 cts.	82
6 wolf skins, a 1 00,	6

*Invoice of the 16th July, 1809.*

256 lbs. beaver, a 2 00,	512
91 raccoon and wild cat skins, a 25 cts.	22 75
7 wolf skins, a 75 cts.	5 25

5,494 50

## LE MOIN FACTORY.

*Invoice of March 28th, 1809.*

710½ lbs. beaver, estimated a \$ 2 per. lb.	1,421
1353 muskrat skins, estimated a 25 cts. ea.	338 25
3585 raccoon skins, estimated a 25 cts. ea.	896 25

2,655 50

Dollars,

8,150 00

*Office of Indian trade, 31st December, 1809.*

(H.)

List of balances due from the Superintendent of Indian  
trade, on the 31st December, 1809.

Peter Gansevoort, jun. former military agent at Albany, for transportation,	1,590 25
Joseph Saul, agent at New-Orleans, due him,	1,677 29
Levi Sheftall, late military agent at Savannah,	967 22
John W. Bronaugh, agent for transportation,	49 74
John Teakle, on account of goods purchased of him,	100 49
William Clarke, military agent at Saint Louis,	830 90
L. and P. Lannay due them for merchandize,	720 13
E. I. Dupont de Nemours and Co. due them for gun powder,	568
L. H. Gansevoort, late military agent. Albany, due him,	534 67
Anthony Lamb, present military agent at Albany, estimated	1,390
Dollars,	8,428 69

OFFICE INDIAN TRADE,

18th JANUARY, 1808.

SIR,

UNDERSTANDING that a committee of Congress have been appointed on the subject of Indian affairs, I beg leave to submit to your consideration some alterations, which appear to me to be requisite in the law regulating the trading house establishment.

By this law it is not permitted to export on public account either furs or peltries—experience, as the books and correspondence of my predecessor will shew, has proven that the demand for peltries, particularly deer skins, of which great numbers, in our trade with the Indians, are of necessity taken, is by no means equal to the quantities furnished, of course if restricted to be sold here, great sacrifices must be made, and such as must in spite of every vigilance on the part of the superintendent and the agents, inevitably diminish the fund set apart for this trade; although it is believed that the demand for furs commonly used by hatters, in the manufactory of hats, is sufficient in this country to afford reasonable competition and sales, yet the existing restrictions to hold not less than six public sales in each year, and not more than two thereof in any one state, operate much against the fund, as thereby the President has it not in his power to select that market in the United States, at which may have been found the greatest demand and best prices, as was evinced by the sales of the last year.

The law authorises the President to draw annually from the treasury, a sum not exceeding ten thousand dollars, for the payment of the agents and their clerks, at the different trading houses, and allows the agents to draw from the public supplies two rations each, and their clerks one ration each, per diem; this has been commuted to subsistence money, and is paid at this office. There are now estab-

lished on the frontiers ten trading houses, having one agent and one assistant at each; the salaries stand thus:—

10 agents, 1 at \$ 1,250; 9 at \$ 1,000 per annum,	10,250
Subsistence money to each, at \$ 365 per annum,	3,650
Allowance annually for furniture at \$ 25,	250
10 assistants, at \$ 600 per annum,	6,000
Subsistence money at \$ 180 per annum,	1,800
Interpreters at most of the posts, are indispensably requisite, say 7, at \$ 400 per annum,	2,800
Occasional interpreting at other posts, say	250
	<hr/> \$ 25,000 <hr/>

[See corrected statement in the continuation of the correspondence of 1st February, 1808.]

Thus it appears, that a sum of not less than twenty-five thousand dollars is requisite for paying the salaries at the trading houses.

The clerk hire allowed by the law for this office, is one thousand dollars annually; it is impossible to do the business with less than two good clerks; this I believe will be readily admitted, when it is recollected that the superintendent has to do at this time with ten different trading houses, (and their number will probably be increased,) that he has not only to correspond with, but to supply them with goods from time to time, to receive and sell their peltries, to receive and settle their accounts quarterly, and to keep an extensive set of books, and a considerable correspondence with others on the business of this establishment. Two clerks cannot be had for less than sixteen hundred dollars, and this rate is certainly moderate, when compared with the rate of clerk hire allowed in the other public offices; and it is to be remarked, that the clerks of this office are restricted from any trade or commerce, which is not the case with those in any of the other offices. If the number of trading houses are extended, more aid here, will yet be necessary; at this time I have but one clerk engaged, and the fact is, with my whole time, I am not thus able to keep the business of the office from going behind hand.

As to the propriety of extending the privilege of franking letters and packets to this office, you sir, who have witnessed their number and frequency in passing through your department, and the inconvenience attending the present mode of conducting the correspondence, can best judge.

With very great respect,

I have the honor to be, &c. &c.

(Signed)

J. MASON, Sup. I. T.

General Henry Dearborn,

Secretary of War, Washington.

# OFFICE INDIAN TRADE,

1st FEBRUARY, 1808.

SIR,

IN the letter which I had the honor to write you on the 18th ult. the annual compensation to the agents and assistant agents at the different trading houses, is said to stand thus: 9 agents, at \$ 1,000 each; 1, \$ 1,250; subsistence money to each \$ 365; 10 assistant agents, at \$ 600; subsistence money to each \$ 180.

This statement, which was taken from one made by my predecessor, I found in the office, and was supposed at the time, by me, to contain the actual sums now paid; on more strict examination, I find it was conjectural only of what would probably be the settled rates of compensation.

The rates now actually paid, are 1 agent, \$ 1,250 salary, and 365 subsistence money; 8 agents, \$ 1,000 salary, and 365 subsistence money; and 1 agent, \$ 750 salary, and 270 subsistence money; 1 assistant agent, \$ 600 salary, and 180 subsistence money; 2 assistant agents, \$ 500 salary, and 180 subsistence money; 5 assistant agents, at \$ 500 salary, and 150 subsistence money—there appears to be two factories at this time without assistant agents

1 agent, \$ 1,250; 8 agents, a \$ 1,000,	9,250
Subsistence money to each, 365 per annum,	3,285
1 agent, \$ 750; subsistence, 270,	1,020
1 assistant agent, a \$ 600; subsistence, 180,	780
2 assistant do. a \$ 500; do. 180,	1,360
5 assistant do. a \$ 500; do. 150,	3,250

*Dollars.* . . . 18,945

Although the variation is not considerable, I consider it right to state the fact; the want of accuracy in the first statement, I pray may be attributed to the true cause, that from the short time I have been in office, and with but slender aid, I have not been as yet able to examine all the papers and accounts belonging to this establishment.

With great respect,

I am, Sir, &c. &c.

(Signed)

J. MASON, Secy. I. T.

*The honorable Henry Dearborn,*

*Secretary of War.*

#### OFFICE INDIAN TRADE,

JANUARY 16th, 1809.

SIR,

BY instructions from the secretary of war, to communicate to you such information as may have been acquired at this office, as to the operation of the act for establishing trading houses with the Indian tribes, I take the liberty to address you.

By this act it is not permitted to export furs or peltries. Experience has proven that the home demand for peltries, particularly deer skins, (of which great numbers are of necessity taken from the Indians) is by no means equal to the quantity furnished, of course if restricted to be sold here, great sacrifices will often be made.

For furs commonly used by hatters in the manufacture of hats, it is believed the demand in this country is sufficient to afford reasonable competition and sales, but the existing restrictions operate much against the fund, by narrowing the choice even among our own markets.

It appears to have been contemplated by the present law, to pay from the treasury the salaries requisite to conduct this establishment, and by not taxing the fund therewith to give the Indians their supplies on better terms: the increase of the business by adding to the number of the trading houses, and spreading more extensively the benefits of the system among the various tribes, has, however in part, compelled a departure from this plan and occasioned heavy drafts from the funds.

The law authorises the President to draw from the treasury annually, a sum not exceeding ten thousand dollars, for the payment of the salaries of agents and their clerks on the frontiers, and allow them to draw rations from the public supplies; these (the rations) have been commuted into subsistence money, which is paid from the funds of this establishment.

There are at this time located and supplied on the frontiers, twelve trading houses, eleven of which are in full operation, and one will commence as soon as the spring opens; of these, three have been established during the last year.

*The salaries now paid for conducting them are to agents:*

8 at each \$ 1,000 per annum, and \$ 365 per annum subsistence money,	\$ 10,920
3 at \$ 800 and \$ 365 subsistence money,	3,495
1 at \$ 750 and \$ 270 subsistence money,	1,020
	<hr/>
	\$ 15,435

*To assistant agents or clerks:*

1 at \$ 600 per annum, and 180 subsistence money,	780
1 at \$ 500 and 180 subsistence money,	680
5 at \$ 500 and 150 subsistence money,	3,250
	<hr/>
	20,145

Interpreters are requisite at most of the posts; the average rate of salary is \$ 400 per annum, say at 8 posts, 3,200

It will be seen by the statement above, that of the 12 factories 7 only have assistant agents or clerks, three additional will probably be wanting at \$ 650, 1,950

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\$ 25,295

The allowance for clerks for this office payable from the treasury, is one thousand dollars per annum. Fourteen hundred dollars are paid, of which four hundred dollars from the funds of this establishment as in the case of the agents at the trading houses. An additional accounting clerk is indispensably requisite, as the business of the office cannot be kept up with the present assistance: should it therefore be thought right to appropriate from the treasury enough to cover the annual expenses of agents, clerks and assistants, twenty five thousand three hundred dollars for the trading houses on the frontiers, and two thousand four hundred for this office, will be requisite.

Whether it will be necessary to add to the general fund for the purposes of trade with the Indian tribes, depending in great measure on the policy of extending the system, it is not for me to give an opinion: it is however proper to remark, that the last has been an unfortunate year for the establishment, as well that the peltries depending for sale on foreign demand, are a dead and perishing stock on hand, as that most of the articles usually laid in for the supplies of the factories have risen considerably in price.

From the nature of the business of this office, you will readily see, sir, that the correspondence must be constant and extensive—and I beg to submit to you, the propriety of extending the privilege of franking to it as to other public offices.

With very great respect,

I have the honor to be, &c. &c.

(Signed)

J. MASON, *Supt. In. Tr.*

*The hon. Thomas Newton, Chairman of the  
Committee of Commerce and Manufactures.*

(COPY.)

INDIAN TRADE OFFICE, January 29th, 1810.

The hon. Albert Gallatin,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

SIR,

HAVING remarked in the list of appropriations lately reported to Congress for the present year, no provision for an additional clerk in this office, as allowed by an act of the last session of the tenth Congress, which I presume may have escaped your notice from the circumstance of its having been inserted in an act separate from that in which other appropriations for the office were made, I respectfully beg permission to call your attention to the subject.

The allowance for clerks for this office by the original act of 1806, is \$ 1,000—three clerks are employed.

Jeremiah W. Bronaugh,	at	\$ 800
John Fowler,	..	.. 800
and Meade Fitzhugh,	..	.. 600
		<hr/>
		\$ 2,200

Four hundred dollars of which are paid out of the general fund. It is not reasonable to expect that the gentlemen whose services are now employed, can long be retained, or other sufficient clerks be had at those rates, when it is considered that the compensation paid here to the principal clerks is not more than is received in the other public offices by mere transcribers; and when too, it is peculiarly the case in this office, that they are restrained from doing any business of a mercantile nature on their own accounts; it must happen that none but young men can be employed, and that as soon as they have become sufficiently acquainted with the business to be really useful, they will find better offers elsewhere and may often leave the office in an awkward situation. Again, the responsibility of the clerks of this office is greater than in many others, because of the quantity of goods constantly packing and unpacking, receiving and sending off in their charge. The business of this office has increased much by the addition of new trading houses. A principal clerk of competent knowledge of business generally and of goods suited to the trade particularly, a competent bookkeeper and a transcribing clerk are indispensably necessary.

I therefore take the liberty to solicit that an allowance of clerk hire be made (including the \$ 1,000 appropriated by the act of 1806) of two thousand nine hundred dollars; and I beg leave, sir, to submit to your consideration the propriety of asking of Congress an appropriation to that effect.

With very great respect, &c. &c.

(Signed)

J. MASON, Supt. In. Tr.